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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3574  
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RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 4468  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 6801  
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 2054  
RUEHKS0/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 4997  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 8270  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 9739  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2881  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 5765  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 5486  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

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SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
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USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;  
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CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Tuesday morning papers gave top or front-page play to the GOJ's draft of basic policies for economic and fiscal reform for fiscal 2009.

12. "Relisting North Korea as Terror Sponsor Is Obvious Choice" The business-oriented Nikkei editorialized (6/9): "Secretary of State Clinton reportedly said that the U.S. has begun to study whether to re-designate North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism. We cannot overlook North Korea's provocative actions, including its second nuclear test, which threaten international and regional security. It is natural for the Obama administration to shift its emphasis from dialogue to pressure... The Bush administration removed North Korea from its terror sponsor list last October... The delisting produced no results and instead prompted Pyongyang to take reckless actions... The mistake of the Bush administration, which rushed to produce diplomatic achievements, should be corrected. North Korea's nuclear ambitions will be a serious obstacle for the Obama administration's diplomatic policy to seek a 'world without nuclear weapons.' Re-designation, which will ban economic assistance, will have a major impact on North Korea if it is implemented. We call for prompt re-designation."

13. "U.S. Government Should Re-Designate North Korea without Hesitation" The conservative Sankei wrote in an editorial (6/9): "... Designation of North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism was a powerful card for the U.S., along with financial sanctions. Despite that, North Korea was removed from the terror sponsor list last autumn in exchange for the disablement of its nuclear facilities. Pyongyang is taking advantage of the delisting without paying for it. We want the U.S. to swiftly relist North Korea, as Japan strongly desires."

ZUMWALT